

COPY

54039
ER 1-4371

19 December 1950

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Functions of the Office of Research and Reports

Participating [REDACTED] 25X1

1. Mr. Armstrong stated that he believed that O/R should undertake commodity studies. These commodity studies were to be basic descriptive work in considerable detail in the commodity and general service field, including fuel, mineral, agricultural, transportation, telecommunications, etc. It would be understood that such studies would deal up to finished products but would not include manufacturing. Mr. Armstrong stated that such studies were needed by all agencies and that the Department of State was unable to prepare them. Mr. Jackson said that he considers this a matter for informal discussion with the IAC as to whether CIA should assume the function and whether there were any other agencies doing it at the present time.

2. Mr. Armstrong stated he would like to see an intensification of the work of the Foreign Broadcast Information Division. The Department of State is particularly anxious to see more analysis of frequency of broadcasts, direction, intensity, etc. Continued analysis, he believed, was up to the individual agencies. It was agreed that CIA would investigate the possibility of increasing this work by FBID. 25X1

[REDACTED]

4. Mr. Armstrong said that his department would like a detailed analysis of Soviet requirements. Such an analysis would be based on orders which the USSR was placing for equipment in the West, a study of East-West trade, etc. Mr. Jackson said that he believed this fitted into the O/R mission. 25X1

[REDACTED]

7. Discussion of the personnel and fiscal needs of the Department of State is contained in the attached memorandum.

[REDACTED]